

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 02750 301248Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 CU-02 /054 W
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R 301103Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2183
INFO USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, PFOR, BU
SUBJECT: ANOTHER BULGARIAN REACTION TO THE DEC 7 LAPO INCIDENT

REF: A) SOFIA 2696; B) SOFIA 2589

1. AMBASSADOR RECEIVED LETTER FROM LYUBOMIR PAVLOV, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR TELEVISION AND RADIO, PROTESTING AGAINST DELAY OF ITS RADIO PROGRAM BY PROLONGATION, "WITHOUT REASON", OF INTERMISSION DURING DEC 7 LAPO CONCERT "CONTRARY TO THE STANDARDS OF ACCURACY ESTABLISHED ALL OVER THE WORLD IN CASES OF DIRECT (LIVE) RADIO BROADCASTS." THE DELAY WAS ATTRIBUTED TO ZUBIN MEHTA PERSONALLY, AND COMMITTEE CLAIMED IT WAS ALSO ACTING AS SPOKESMAN FOR "NUMEROUS SHARP PROTESTS OF BULGARIAN LISTENERS."

2. ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS SOMETIMES POSSIBLE TO TRANSFORM A LIABILITY INTO AN ASSET, AMBASSADOR ASKED TO BE RECEIVED BY MR. PAVLOV, WHOM HE HAD TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SEE SINCE JULY. MEETING TOOK PLACE DEC 30. PRESENT WERE ALSO HEAD OF BULGARIAN RADIO, CHIEF OF COMMITTEE'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPT, AND EMBASSY P & C OFFICER. AMBASSADOR BEGAN BY ACKNOWLEDGING
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THE EVENT HAD BEEN UNFORTUNATE AND REGRETTABLE, AND AGREED WITH PAVLOV'S PHRASE THAT INCIDENT WAS "NOT IN THE INTEREST OF EFFORTS FOR EXPANSION OF CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN BULGARIAN RADIO AND THE CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES."

3. TURNING TO HOW CULTURAL RELATIONS COULD BE FURTHER
ACTIVATED AND IMPROVED IN FIELDS OF TV AND RADIO, PARTI-
CULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE GENERALLY IMPROVING CLIMATE BETWEEN
THE US AND BULGARIA AND THE UNDERTAKINGS OF THE FINAL ACT
OF HELSINKI, AMBASSADOR PROPOSED AND PAVLOV AGREED THAT THE
COMMITTEE WOULD DESIGNATE A POINT OF CONTACT FOR OUR P & C
OFFICER TO PROVIDE MORE AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS ABOUT THE US TO
BULGARIAN RADIO AND TV. MEETING ENDED VERY AMICABLY, WITH PAV-
LOV CLAIMING TO BE INTERESTED IN IMPROVING BULGARIAN COMPRE-
HENSION OF THE US AND IN MODERATING SOME OF THE HARSH
IDEOLOGICAL PROPAGANDA THAT WE HAD SEEN EARLIER IN THE YEAR.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MUSIC, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, RADIO BROADCASTING, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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